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| 09/920,910 | 08/02/2001 | Miraj Mostafa | 442-010509-US(PAR) | 7123 |
| 2512 | 7590 | 04/11/2006 | EXAMINER | |
| PERMAN & GREEN 425 POST ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824 | | | MEUCCI, MICHAEL D | |
| | | | ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
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DATE MAILED: 04/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/920,910

Applicant(s)

MOSTAFA, MIRAJ

Examiner

Michael D. Meucci

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 27 January 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 21-59 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 21-59 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 02 August 2001 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/06/04, 1/27/06
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to the Request for Continued Examination (RCE) filed 27 January 2006.
2. Claims 21-59 remain pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 101

3. 35 U.S.C. 101 reads as follows:

Whoever invents or discovers any new and useful process, machine, manufacture, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, may obtain a patent therefor, subject to the conditions and requirements of this title.

4. Claims 47 and 59 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 because the claimed invention is directed to non-statutory subject matter. Computer programs claimed as computer listings *per se*, i.e., the descriptions or expressions of the programs, are not physical "things." They are neither computer components nor statutory processes, as they are not "acts" being performed. Such claimed computer programs do not define any structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and other claimed elements of a computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized. In contrast, a claimed computer-readable medium encoded with a computer program is a computer element which defines structural and functional interrelationships between the computer program and the rest of the computer which permit the computer program's functionality to be realized, and is thus statutory. Accordingly, it is important to distinguish claims that define descriptive material *per se* from claims that define statutory inventions. See MPEP §2601. In these claims, the term "computer usable medium" renders each claim non-statutory. To expedite a complete examination of the

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instant application, the claims rejected under 35 U.S.C. 101 (nonstatutory) above are further rejected as set forth below in anticipation of applicant amending these claims to place them within the four statutory categories of invention.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 21-59 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Luzeski et al. (U.S. 6,430,177 B1) hereinafter referred to as Luzeski in view of Parasnis et al. (U.S. 6,728,753 B1) hereinafter referred to as Parasnis and Broussard (U.S. 6,269,483 B1).

a. As per claims 21, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, and 59 Luzeski teaches: receiving, by a messaging server, content, including a streamable media component and information describing the streamable media component (abstract, lines 47-52 of column 5, and Fig. 1); and sending information describing the streamable media component from the messaging server to a recipient terminal (lines 35-39 of column 11 and lines 7-29 of column 20).

Luzeski does not explicitly teach: forming a streaming session between the messaging server and the recipient terminal using the information describing the streamable media component. However, Parasnis discloses: "In addition to viewing

presentations in the forgoing manner, recent advancements in streaming format technology have made it possible to receive audio and video content via live broadcasts over the Internet and other network environments," (lines 35-39 of column 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to form a streaming session between the messaging server and the recipient terminal using the information describing the streamable media component. "As opposed to conventional network file transfer schemes, streaming format technology allows content to be continuously "streamed" to one or more computers over a network rather than being first downloaded as a file," (lines 39-42 of column 2 in Parasnis). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to form a streaming session between the messaging server and the recipient terminal using the information describing the streamable media component in the system as taught by Luzeski.

Luzeski does not explicitly teach: a wireless terminal. However, Broussard discloses: "The terminal 10 may also include a modem and wireless transceiver 38, coupled to the bus 31. The wireless transceiver 38 may also be coupled to the network 22," (lines 33-36 of column 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the terminal wireless. Not only is this extremely obvious in the art, Broussard provides the motivation: "In this event, the wireless transceiver may include an antenna for exchanging video and audio stream data with a cellular network pursuant to a protocol such as CDPD or H.324. Typically, in this configuration, the terminal 10 will be a hand-held communications or computing

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device or portable computer," (lines 36-42 of column 5 in Broussard). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the terminal wireless in the system as taught by Luzeski.

Luzeski does not explicitly teach: the streamable media component is constructed to be presentable to a recipient while the streamable media component is being transmitted from the messaging server to the recipient wireless terminal or while the wireless messaging device is receiving the streamable media component.

However, Parasnis discloses: "In addition to viewing presentations in the forgoing manner, recent advancements in streaming format technology have made it possible to receive audio and video content via live broadcasts over the Internet and other network environments," (lines 35-39 of column 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to have the streamable media component constructed to be presentable to a recipient while the streamable media component is being transmitted from the messaging server to the recipient wireless terminal or while the wireless messaging device is receiving the streamable media component. "As opposed to conventional network file transfer schemes, streaming format technology allows content to be continuously "streamed" to one or more computers over a network rather than being first downloaded as a file," (lines 39-42 of column 2 in Parasnis). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to have the streamable media component constructed to be presentable to a recipient while the streamable media component is being transmitted from the messaging server to the recipient wireless

terminal or while the wireless messaging device is receiving the streamable media component in the system as taught by Luzeski.

b. As per claim 22, Luzeski teaches: the messaging server receives the streamable media component and the information describing the streamable media component from a sending terminal (abstract, lines 47-52 of column 5, and Fig. 1).

c. As per claim 23, Luzeski teaches: the messaging server receives the streamable media component and the information describing the streamable media component in separate messages (lines 5-16 of column 12).

d. As per claim 24, Luzeski teaches: the content includes at least one non-streamable component ("e-mail" in lines 29-33 of column 1).

e. As per claim 25, Luzeski does not explicitly teach: the streaming session is formed under one of the following protocols: HTTP and RTSP. However, Broussard discloses: "The packetized data may be transmitted using a plurality of protocols including RTP, RTSP, H.323 among others," (lines 26-28 of column 4). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to create the streaming session using one of HTTP and RTSP. In addition to h.323, any other suitable protocol may be used for exchanging audio and video stream data with the network 22. Other examples include the real-time transport protocol (RTP), the real-time streaming protocol (RTSP) among others," (lines 29-33 of column 5 in Broussard). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to create the streaming session using one of HTTP and RTSP in the system as taught by Luzeski.

f. As per claim 26, Luzeski does not explicitly teach: generating the streamable media component at a sending terminal. However, Parasnis discloses: "A typical example illustrating the use of streaming format technology is a live Internet concert, in which audio and video equipment at the performance site produce signals that are converted into a digital format in real- or near-real-time (or are already in a digital format if digital camera equipment is used), and the digital content is converted into an appropriate streaming format and broadcast to a large audience accessing the concert via an Internet Web page," (lines 43-50 of column 2). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to generate the streamable media component at a sending terminal. "In addition to concerts, streaming technology is presently used for broadcasting other types of live events, including presentations," (lines 50-553 of column 2 in Parasnis). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to generate the streamable media component at a sending terminal in the system as taught by Luzeski.

g. As per claim 27, Luzeski teaches: streaming the streamable media component to the messaging server (abstract, lines 47-52 of column 5, and Fig. 1). Luzeski does not explicitly teach: a streamable media component generated at the sending terminal. However, this limitation is rejected in the same manner as discussed in the rejection of claim 26.

h. As per claim 28, Luzeski does not explicitly teach: the step of sending the information describing the streamable media component from the messaging server to

the recipient wireless terminal takes place before generation of the streamable media component is complete. However, Parasnis discloses: "The one or more HTML files comprising the presentation slides are sent from the local computer to the NETSHOW.TM. server, which then broadcasts the files to the receiving computers, preferably using a multicast broadcast," (lines 30-33 of column 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to send the information describing the streamable media component from the messaging server to the recipient wireless terminal takes place before generation of the streamable media component is complete. "The multicast broadcast is performed using a relatively high bandwidth (preferably corresponding to a substantial portion of the available bandwidth of the receiving computers), prior to the start of the presentation, to enable the HTML files to be cached by the browser application programs of the receiving computers," (lines 34-39 of column 5 in Parasnis). It is for this reason that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention would have been motivated to send the information describing the streamable media component from the messaging server to the recipient wireless terminal takes place before generation of the streamable media component is complete in the system as taught by Luzeski.

i. As per claim 29, Luzeski teaches: step of sending a notification message from the messaging server to the recipient terminal to inform the recipient wireless terminal that the content is available for retrieval by (lines 35-39 of column 11 and lines 7-29 of column 20). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 20.

j. As per claim 30, Luzeski teaches: sending the information describing the streamable media component from the messaging server to the recipient terminal within a notification message (lines 35-39 of column 11 and lines 7-29 of column 20). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 20.

k. As per claim 31, Luzeski teaches: the streaming session is formed after the recipient terminal has received the notification message (lines 35-39 of column 11 and lines 7-29 of column 20). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 20.

l. As per claim 32, Luzeski teaches: the streaming session is formed at discretion of the user (lines 54-56 of column 1).

m. As per claim 33, Luzeski teaches: messaging server comprises a content server, the content server receiving the streamable media component from a sending terminal and transmitting the streamable media component to the recipient terminal (lines 46-53 of column 5). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 20.

n. As per claim 34, Luzeski teaches: implementing the method as part of a multimedia messaging service (MMS) (abstract and lines 23-34 of column 2).

o. As per claim 35, Luzeski does not explicitly teach: multicasting the streamable media component to at least one other recipient in addition to the recipient terminal. However, Parasnis discloses: "During the presentation, the ASF stream comprising the live content and the slide display commands are sent to the network server, which then broadcasts the ASF stream to the receiving computers," (lines 39-42

of column 5). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the applicant's invention to multicast the streamable media component to at least one other recipient in addition to the recipient terminal. Motivation for this limitation is stated above (allowing multiple users access to the media stream). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 20.

p. As per claim 36, Luzeski teaches: the messaging server receives the streamable media component within a multimedia message (lines 23-34 of column 2).

q. As per claim 38, Luzeski teaches: means for transmitting the streamable media component in sequential sub-parts to the recipient terminal during the streaming session (line 66 of column 20 through line 5 of column 21). A recipient wireless terminal is discussed above in the rejection of claim 37.

r. Claims 39-44, 46, 49-54, and 56-58 contain limitations similar to those in claims 21-38, 47-48, 55, and 59, and are rejected for the same reasons.

Response to Arguments

7. Applicant's arguments filed 27 January 2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

8. (A) Regarding claims 21, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, and 59, the applicant contends that Luzeski fails to disclose or suggest a streamable media component, constructed to be presentable to a recipient while the streamable media component is being

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transmitted from a media server to a recipient wireless terminal. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

As to point (A), the "streamable media component" is just information exchanged in forming the session, and it has no particular meaning, which the applicant has argued. The "streamable media component" is not defined such that the media must be streamed; only that it may be possible to stream the media. Additionally, the information describing the streamable media component is simply information describing the media that may be possible to stream. Therefore, the streamable media component and information describing the streamable media component is any media that can be streamed and information about this media.

9. (B) Regarding claims 21, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, and 59, the applicant contends that Luzeski does not disclose or suggest "streaming" the streamable media component as described by the claims of the invention.

As to point (B), the claims only state that the media component is a streamable media component (i.e. only that it is possible to stream the media component). The formation of a streaming session is incorporated in the obvious addition of Parasnis. See the rejection for claims 21, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, and 59, above.

10. (C) Regarding claims 21, 37, 45, 47, 48, 55, and 59, the applicant contends that Parasnis does not receive information describing a streamable media component at a messaging server, does not send the describing information from the messaging

server to a recipient wireless terminal, and does not form a streaming session between the messaging server and the recipient wireless terminal based on the information. The examiner respectfully disagrees.

As to point (C), cited portions of Parasnis clearly describe these limitations. In Parasnis, the cited portions describe streaming live Internet concerts originating from video and audio equipment at the concert site. Even the abstract of the disclosure *clearly* discloses these limitations by disclosing: "During the presentation, the live audio and visual content is captured and encoded into an advanced server file stream format that is streamed from a local computer (at the presenter's location) or a NETSHOW.TM. server to the receiving computers," (Abstract of Parasnis). As such, these limitations are taught by the prior art and do not contain allowable subject matter.

11. (D) The applicant's remaining arguments are directed towards limitations already discussed in (A)-(C) above.

Conclusion

12. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Swix et al. (U.S. 6,718,551 B1) discloses broadcasting multiple stream on multiple channels.

Hodge (U.S. 6,938,268 B1) discloses multiple video streaming session.

Humpleman et al. (U.S. 2005/0246624 A1) discloses broadcasting a stream over a network.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Meucci at (571) 272-3892. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Caldwell, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax phone number for this Group is 571-273-8300.

Communications via Internet e-mail regarding this application, other than those under 35 U.S.C. 132 or which otherwise require a signature, may be used by the applicant and should be addressed to [michael.meucci@uspto.gov].

All Internet e-mail communications will be made of record in the application file. PTO employees do not engage in Internet communications where there exists a possibility that sensitive information could be identified or exchanged unless the record includes a properly signed express waiver of the confidentiality requirements of 35 U.S.C. 122. This is more clearly set forth in the Interim Internet Usage Policy published in the Official Gazette of the Patent and Trademark on February 25, 1997 at 1195 OG 89.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

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Beatriz Prieto
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PRIMARY EXAMINER